

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 5  
By Kisber

A RESOLUTION to honor Billy Stokes for his exemplary  
contribution to public service.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the elected representatives of the state of Tennessee should honor those Tennesseans who through their own diligence and commitment have made significant contributions to public service; and

WHEREAS, Billy Stokes is one such Tennessean, a native of Knoxville, who graduated from Rule High School and earned his B.A. degree in psychology and law degree from the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from law school, Billy Stokes joined the United States Army and served as a captain in the Judge Advocate General's Corps for three years; and

WHEREAS, he continued his exemplary legal career as a partner in the Knoxville law firm of Carpenter & O'Connor; he later was a founding partner in the law firm of Stokes & Fansler; and

WHEREAS, despite the demands of his highly successful legal career, Billy Stokes continued to be an active participant in the political affairs of Tennessee, serving as Chairman of the Knox County Republican Party Executive Committee from 1986 to 1990 and as a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1988; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. Stokes served as commissioner of the Department of Employment Security before joining the staff of Governor Sundquist as “Special Assistant to the Governor”; and

WHEREAS, this sagacious attorney devoted his time and considerable talents to a great number of committees and issues, of which even a brief listing is inspiring; and

WHEREAS, the epitome of an active and effective leader, Billy Stokes gave unreservedly of himself to various issues, including Welfare Reform, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and was an integral part of the Tennessee Ocoee Development Agency; and

WHEREAS, Billy Stokes worked tirelessly with the Joint Legislative Committee on Workers’ Compensation and assisted in developing the Workers Compensation Reform Act of 1996; and

WHEREAS, the avid U.T. fan still finds time to ride his “Harley” and get in a round of golf; and

WHEREAS, his countless accomplishments aside, Billy Stokes is most appreciative of the love and companionship he shares with his charming wife, Bay, and his two daughters, Amy and Angela; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this General Assembly pause in its deliberations to honor and commend Billy Stokes for his exemplary service to the state of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor Mr. Billy Stokes for his service to the state of Tennessee and offer our best wishes as he re-enters private practice; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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